

Message Text

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R 230010Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 213678

FOR FROWICK FROM SCHMIDT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

REF: PRAGUE 2200

1. AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENT. WE WERE EXTREMELY SORRY TO
HEAR OF MRS. BYRNE'S ACCIDENT AND HOPE THAT SHE WAS NOT
INJURED IN ANY WAY. PLEASE EXTEND OUR BEST WISHES TO HER.
JIM GLENN HAS FINALLY BEEN ABLE TO TALK WITH CLEMENTS &
CO.'S MRS. PORTER, EVIDENTLY THEIR ONLY CLAIMS ADJUSTER
COMPETENT TO WORK ON THIS PROBLEM. HER PRELIMINARY
JUDGMENT IS THAT THE CAR SHOULD BE REPAIRED IN
CZECHOSLOVAKIA INASMUCH AS THE CZECHOSLOVAK INSURANCE
COMPANY HAS OFFERED TO PAY 30,000 CROWNS FOR DAMAGES TO
IT. SHE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW WHY THE AMBASSADOR WANTS THE
CAR REPAIRED IN NUERNBERG RATHER THAN IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
BASED ON THE AMBASSADOR'S RESPONSE, SHE WILL BE ABLE TO
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DETERMINE WHETHER CLEMENTS & CO. WILL COVER THE REPAIR
OF THE CAR IN WEST GERMANY. CLEMENTS & CO.'S TELEX
NUMBER, IN CASE THE AMBASSADOR WISHES TO COMMUNICATE
DIRECTLY WITH THEM, IS WESTERN UNION INTERNATIONAL 64514.
IF NOT, WE WILL BE HAPPY TO RELAY THE AMBASSADOR'S
RESPONSE TO MRS. PORTER.

2. VISIT OF HOUSTON DOCTOR. DR. AND MRS. HARBERG (ONLY MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY) WOULD WELCOME YOUR DINNER OR RECEPTION. THEY MUST ATTEND A SEMINAR PARTY ON FRIDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 29, BUT ANY OTHER EVENING IS FINE. THEY ARRIVE AT APPROXIMATELY 3 PM ON SEPTEMBER 26 ON THE OK FLIGHT FROM LONDON AND WILL BE STAYING AT THE INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL. DR. HARBERG WILL CALL YOU AT THE EMBASSY UPON ARRIVAL. THEY SEND YOU THEIR BEST.

3. CONTINGENCY PRESS GUIDANCE ON 1968 INVASION. THANKS FOR YOUR GUIDANCE ON POSSIBLE REPRESSION OF DISSIDENTS (PRAGUE 2169) AND ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE 1968 SOVIET INVASION (PRAGUE 2199). BY NOW, YOU WILL HAVE SEEN OUR CABLES (STATE 211037, AND THE SUBSEQUENT IMMEDIATE RE THE RESTON-SHULMAN CONVERSATION) INDICATING WHAT ULTIMATELY HAPPENED AND AMBASSADOR TOON'S COMMENTS. THERE HAVE BEEN STORIES IN TIME AND NEWSWEEK ON THE ANNIVERSARY AND THE PRESENT SITUATION IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND SEVERAL PRESS ARTICLES (WE ARE POUCHING YOU COPIES). THUS FAR, WE HAVE NOT NOTICED ANY EDITORIALS. THERE HAVE NOT BEEN ANY INQUIRIES OF THE DEPARTMENT'S SPOKESMAN AT THE NOON PRESS BRIEFINGS.

4. NORTH KOREAN DOYEN. WE ARE ASKING PROTOCOL ABOUT THIS AND WILL GET BACK TO YOU ASAP. CHRISTOPHER

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